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WASHINGTON, D. C. 20505

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

26 August 1966

Dr. Albert D. Wheelon Central Intelligence Agency Washington, D. C. 20505

Dear Bud:

This is to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 22 August advising me of your desire to leave the Central Intelligence Agency and Government service on 23 September 1966 to accept a position with the Hughes Aircraft Company.

It will be most difficult for us to find a thoroughly competent replacement to carry on your important work. Nevertheless, I will honor your request, which is, as I understand it, in accord with your original understanding with John McCone when you joined CIA in early 1962.

Your contribution to the Agency, to the intelligence community, and indeed to the Government has been significant. I look forward to recognizing this officially by giving you the Agency's highest award, the Distinguished Intelligence Medal, sometime prior to your departure. I am grateful for your expression of admiration for CIA and its people and appreciate your offer to be of assistance in the future.

My sincere best wishes for continued success and happiness in your future undertakings.

Cordially,

Richard Helms